

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



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PROPOSED GUIDANCE FOR MAKING NON-DETRIMENT FINDINGS
FOR AGARWOOD-PRODUCING SPECIES

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat in relation to agenda item 67.1 on *Agarwood-producing taxa* (Decision 15.94). It contains proposed guidance for the making of non-detriment findings for agarwood-producing species, as agreed at the 20th meeting of the Plants Committee (Dublin, March 2012).

Assessment of factors affecting management of the harvest

The table below has been prepared on the basis of document PC20 Inf. 7, Annex 3a, as amended by the Plants Committee at its 20th meeting.

All criteria in the table apply to wild-sourced agarwood, while some of the criteria would apply to plantation-sourced agarwood as indicated in the last column.

Factors of sustainability	Information sources	Ref.	Plantations
Biological characteristics			
Role of the species in its ecosystem	Consider the role of the species in the ecosystem and whether ecosystem processes are interrupted or changed by the collection of the species. Is the species a keystone or guild species, do other species depend on it for survival (e.g., food source)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scientific literature - Expert (including collector) knowledge - Field observations 	2	N.A
Population status			
National distribution	Range and distribution of the species in the country (whether or not the distribution of the species is continuous, or to what degree it is fragmented): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National distribution map, - Herbarium records, surveys or other vegetation inventories - Expert knowledge (all stakeholders) - Field studies - GIS vegetation coverages, including satellite imagery - Modelling 	1, 5	N.A
National conservation status	Conservation status of the species in the country determined through consultation of : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Threatened species list - Conservation Data Centres - Experts (all stakeholders) - Scientific literatures - Herbarium records - Field surveys (locations, population size, etc.) 	2	✓
National population trend	Population increasing or decreasing? To be measured over a time period independent of the harvest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refer to conservation status - Reported harvests - Experts (all stakeholders) - Field surveys over a period of time - Demographic studies (population viability analyses) 	1	✓

Factors of sustainability	Information sources	Ref.	Plantations
Global conservation status	Refer to global assessment to compare national situation to global range Published global assessments (e.g., IUCN Red List, Conservation Data Centres , e.g., Nature Serve) - Consult other range states - Undertake global assessment with other range states - CITES reports/processes e.g. Significant Trade Review	2	N.A
Global Distribution	Refer to global distribution for national context Published global distribution map Consult other range states	2, 5	N.A
Global population size and trend	Refer to global population size and trend for national context - Published global assessment - Consult other range states	2	N.A
Harvest management			Plantation management
Regulated / unregulated	“Regulated” refers to a sanctioned (government approved or otherwise official) harvest that is under the full control of the manager. Legal status determined through: - Analysis of market reports on trade volumes - Experts (all stakeholders) - Trade volume records (e.g. WCMC CITES trade database; statistics from Customs; National or state permit databases) - Enforcement reports - Field and market surveys	1, 2	✓
Management history	What is the history of harvest? Is the harvest on-going or new? - Literature - Experts (all stakeholders, including trade networks)	1, 2	✓
Illegal or unreported harvest or trade e.g. personal effects, reservations	How significant is the national problem of illegal or unmanaged harvest or trade? Assess the levels of both unmanaged and illegal harvest by: - Collecting market information - Collecting information from traders, collectors, wildlife managers - Comparing exports and imports with other Parties - Comparing CITES permit data to other export data sources (national trade statistics) - Analysing enforcement reports - Conducting field and market surveys	1	✓
Management/ Silviculture plan	Is there an adaptive management plan related to the harvest of the species with the aim of sustainable use? - National and international legislation relating to the conservation of the species - Management plan in place - Plan specifies plant and habitat conservation strategies (may include protected areas) - Harvest practices in place - Harvest practices specify restoration measures (e.g., planting seed when whole plant is removed) - Requirement to keep records of harvest - Harvest records are reviewed and collection monitored - Management plan is reviewed at regular intervals specified in the plan - Limitations on collection (examples include collection seasons, minimum and maximum age / size class allowed for collection based on proportion of mature, reproducing individuals to be retained, maximum collection quantities, maximum allowed collection frequency, maximum allowed number of collectors)	4	✓

Factors of sustainability	Information sources	Ref.	Plantations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Periods allowed for collection are determined using reliable and practical indicators (e.g., seasonality, precipitation cycles, flowering and fruiting times) and are based on information about the reproductive cycles of target species. - The age / size-classes are defined using reliable and practical characters (e.g., plant diameter / DBH, height, fruiting and flowering, local collectors' knowledge). 		
Control of harvest			
Percentage of harvest in State-Protected Areas	What percentage of the legal national harvest occurs in State-controlled Protected Areas? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harvester information or interviews - Enforcement information or interviews - Park manager information or interviews - Compare location information from permit with maps of protected areas - GIS layers of harvesting and land tenure 	1	N.A
Percentage of harvest in areas of strong tenure	What percentage of the legal national harvest occurs in areas with strong local control over resource use? e.g.: a local community or a private landowner is responsible for managing and regulating the harvest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harvester information or interviews - Enforcement information or interviews - Landowner information or interviews - Compare location information from permit with maps of protected areas - GIS layers of harvesting and land tenure 	1	✓
Proportion of range or population protected from harvest	What percentage of the species' natural range or population is legally excluded from harvest? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compare distribution map with maps of areas excluding harvest - Information or interviews with wildlife managers 	1	N.A
Confidence in effectiveness of strict protection measures	Are there measures taken to enforce strict protection? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information or interviews with protected areas managers 	1	N.A
Effectiveness of regulation of harvest effort	How effective are any restrictions on harvesting (such as age or size, season or equipment) for preventing overuse? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information or interviews with resource managers 	1	NA
Confidence in harvest management	Is there effective implementation of management plans and harvest controls? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information or interviews with resource managers 	1	✓
Monitoring of harvest			
Monitoring of harvest impact and management practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Baseline information on population size, distribution, and structure (age/diameter classes) - Records on harvested quantities (species/area/year) - Qualitative indices, e.g., discussions with collectors 	4	✓
Confidence in monitoring	Is there effective implementation of monitoring and harvest impact controls? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring confirms that abundance, viability and quality of the target resource / part of plant is stable or increasing 	1	NA

Factors of sustainability	Information sources	Ref.	Plantations
Other factors that may affect whether or not to allow trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is the effect of the harvest when taken together with the major threat that has been identified for this species? - At the national level, how much conservation benefit to this species accrues from harvesting? - At the national level, how much habitat conservation benefit is derived from harvesting? 	1, 3	NA

N.A = non applicable

✓ = applicable

Only applicable to forest plantations:

- Forest plantation design & layout.
- Information and documentation of origin of parental stock.
- Information on the area planted.
- Justification of spp. present & / or used in the plantations.
- Treatments: fertilization, etc., control of pests.